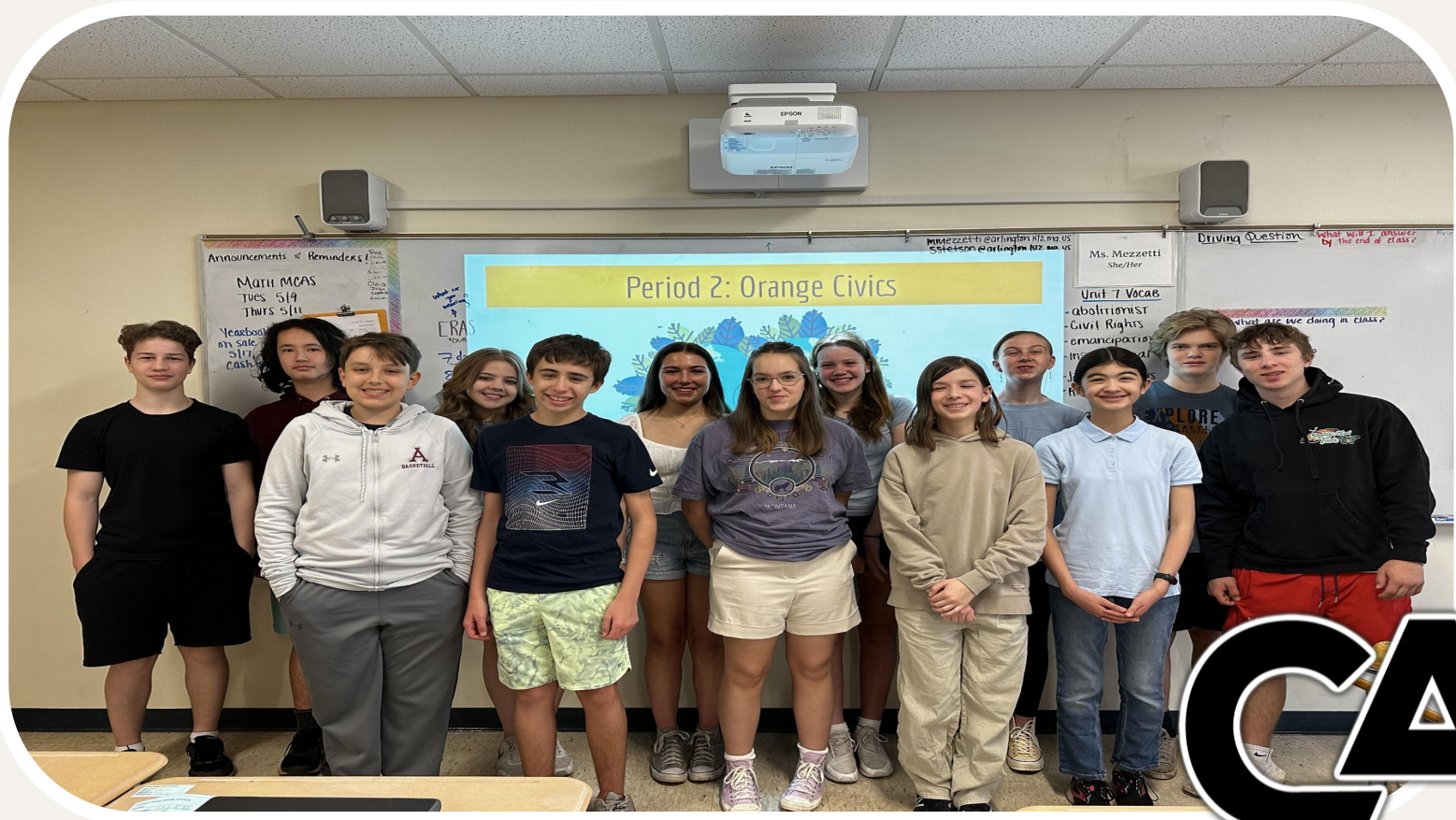


Arlington Restaurant Composting

Warrant Article No. 56

*By: Alexandra Lay, Summer Schadinger, Eleanor
Rockwood, Anne Marie Spilker, Foster Woodberry*





CAP

CIVIC ACTION PROJECT

The slide features two horizontal lines, one near the top and one near the bottom. Each line has a decorative, curved end on the left and right sides, resembling a stylized 'S' or a wave.

1.Proposal

Proposal:

Pilot a 1-year program, available to Arlington restaurants situated along Massachusetts Avenue, that incentivizes food scrap diversion by subsidizing a set percentage of the monthly cost of curbside composting when serviced through select composting companies at a total cost of \$5,000 dollars to the Town of Arlington.



2a. Environmental Benefits



63 million tons of
food waste
annually in the
US



Only 4% of food
waste is
currently
composted

Waste Incineration

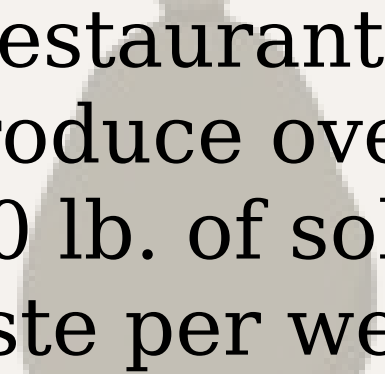
- Emits toxins and pollutants that harm local air quality
- Produces carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide, greenhouse gases (GHG)
- Food waste is composed of 70% water, reducing incineration efficiency
 - Increases operation costs, energy, and fuel
 - Increases GHG emissions

Composting:

- Breaks down into non-toxic components
 - Water, carbon dioxide, biomass
 - Global warming potential (GWP) of nitrous oxide is 300 times greater than carbon dioxide
- Advances Arlington's **net-zero by 2050** action plan

*Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and
Resource Recycling Systems (RRS)*





Restaurants
produce over
600 lb. of solid
waste per week



90% of
restaurant waste
is compostable

Efficiency of Restaurant Composting

- Large environmental impact due to the high volume of food waste we could divert
 - Restaurants are concentrated along Massachusetts Ave.
 - decreases fuel costs and emissions
 - Effectively spreads awareness to restaurant employees and customers
-

The slide features two horizontal lines, one at the top and one at the bottom. Each line has a decorative, curved, 'tail-like' end extending outwards from the center. The top line's tail curves upwards and to the left, while the bottom line's tail curves downwards and to the right.

2b. Restaurant Benefits

Increased Business



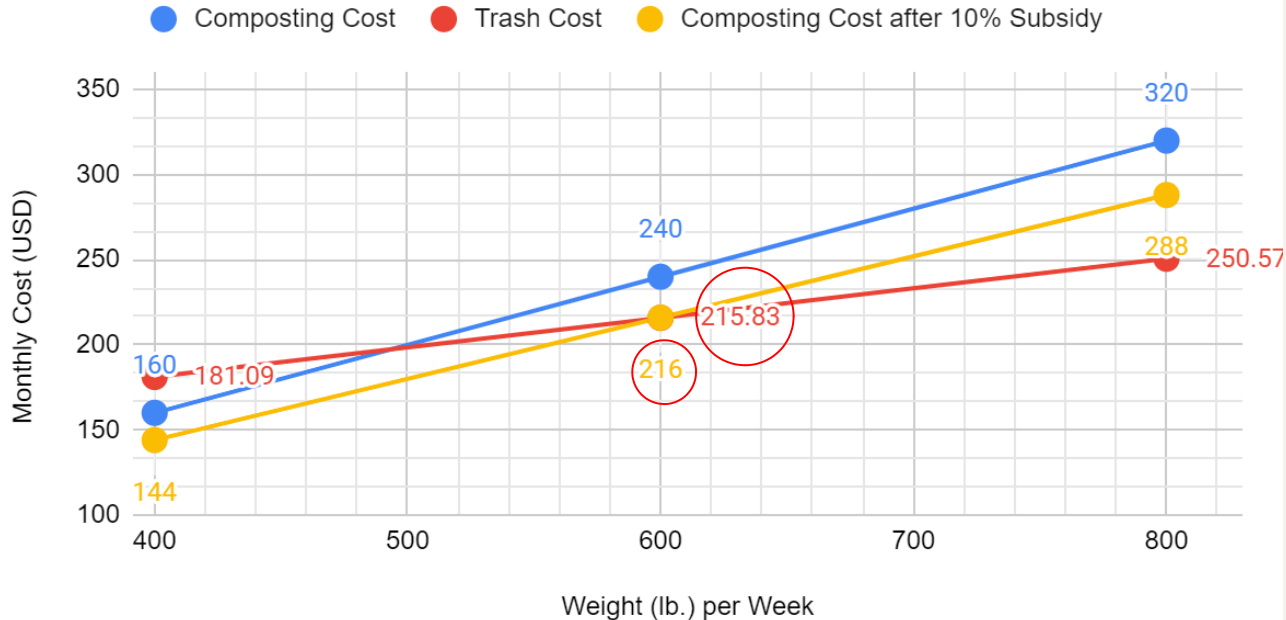
60% of households
prefer dining at
zero-waste
restaurants

- Increases the number of Arlington residents at local restaurants
- Attracts business from neighboring towns

Financial Incentive

Monthly Composting vs. Trash Cost

Quotes courtesy of Black Earth Composting and Waste Management



- After a 10% subsidy, composting costs equate trash pick-up costs

- Restaurant costs do not increase

2c. Town Benefits

Rodent Control

- Compost bins do not attract rodents at a higher rate than dumpsters or trash bins
- Bins designed with rodent prevention in mind
 - Extra thick plastic, locking lids
 - Washable/easy to clean
 - Effectively traps odor



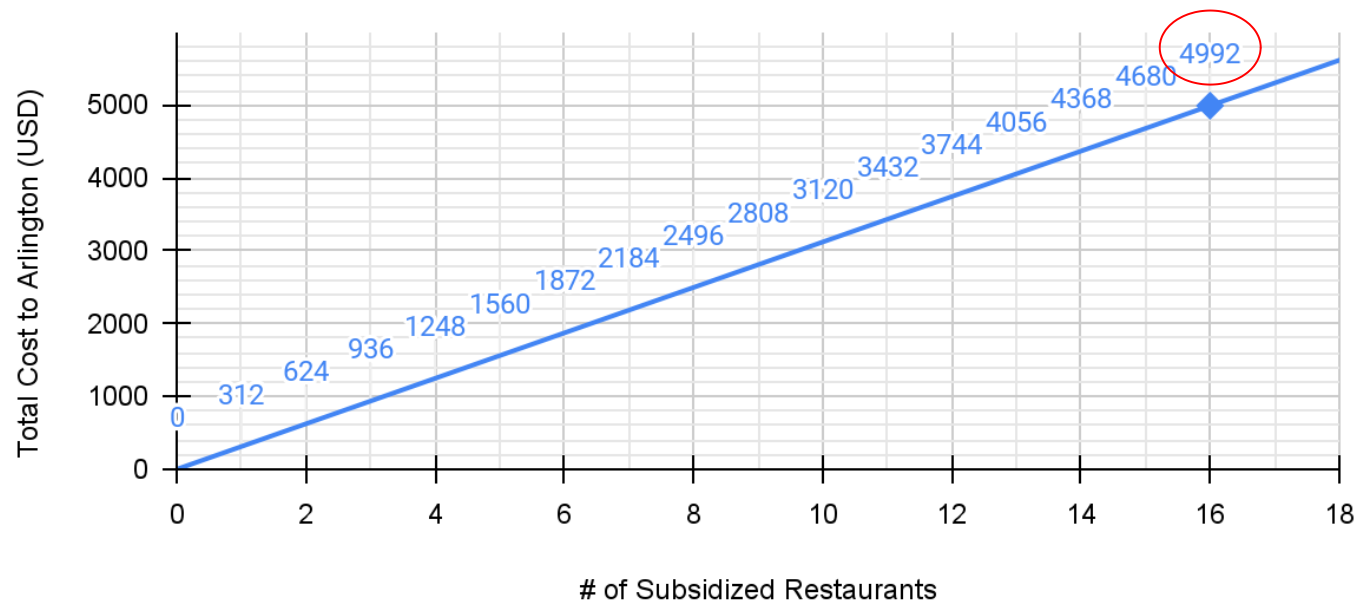
The slide features two horizontal lines, one at the top and one at the bottom. Each line has a curved, organic shape at its left and right ends, resembling a stylized wave or a decorative flourish. The text is centered between these lines.

3. Impact

Total Number of Restaurants Engaged

Total Cost to the Town of Arlington vs. # of Subsidized Restaurants

Quote courtesy of Black Earth Compost

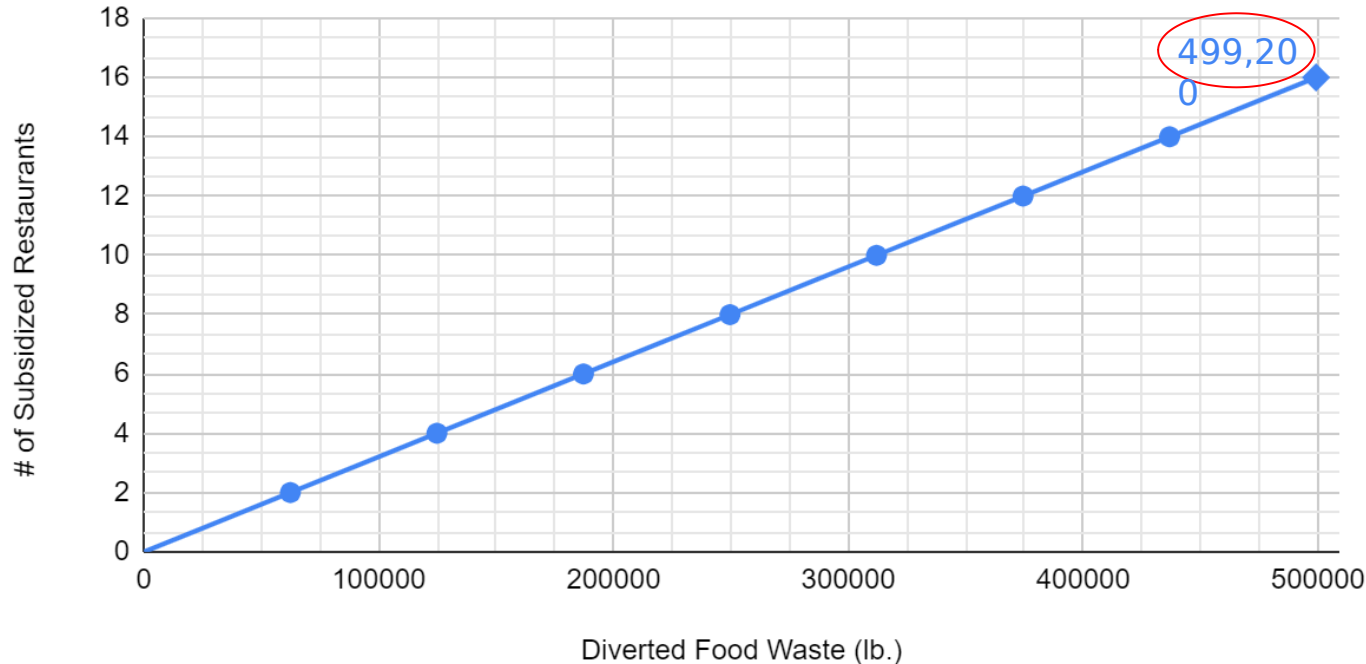


- \$4,992 subsidizes approx. **16** restaurants

Amount of Food Waste Diverted

of Subsidized Restaurants vs. Diverted Food Waste (lb.)

Quote courtesy of Black Earth Compost



- Approx. **499,200 lb.** of food waste diverted over a 1-year period

- **\$1 = 100 lb.** of diverted food waste!



Thank you!

Please consider voting “yes” on warrant article No. 56